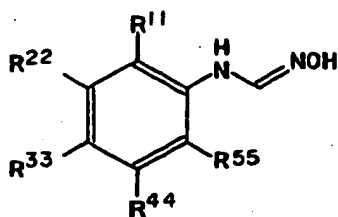


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1.-4. (canceled).
5. (previously presented): A hydroxyformamidine compound represented by the formula:



wherein at least one of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ represents a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group; a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group; a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group substituted with 1 to 6 halogen atoms; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a 3-phenyl-2-propenyloxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₁₀ alkanoylamino group; a C₂₋₆ alkanoylamino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzoylamino group; a carbamoyl group; a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl or phenyl groups; an N-(N',N'-di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl group; a cyano group; a cyano C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group; a phenylsulfonyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylthio C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a phenylsulfonyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group wherein the benzene ring is substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms; a phenyl group; a benzyl group; a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the

group consisting of cyano groups, halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a biphenyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms; a benzyl group substituted with a bicyclo(2.2.1)-hept-5-en-2,3-dicarboxyimidyl group; a styryl group; a styryl group substituted with 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups and di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino alkyl groups; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group; a piperidino group; a morpholino group; a pyridyl group; a pyrimidinyl group; a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl groups and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a phthalimidoyl group; a phthalimidoyl group substituted with 1 to 3 halogen atoms; an N-carbazolyl group; a dioxopiperidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a phenylsulfonylamino group; a phenylsulfonylamino group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a C₁₋₆ alkylaminosulfonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a thiadiazolyl group; an oxadiazolyl group; an oxadiazolyl group substituted with a substituted phenyl group wherein the substituents in the substituted phenyl group are 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a pyrrolidinyl group; a pyrazolyl group; a pyrazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and trifluoromethyl groups; a furyl group; a furyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₂₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl groups; a thienopyrimidinylthio group; a thienopyrimidinylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a thienopyridylthio group; a thienopyridylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a benzothiazolylthio group; a benzothiazolylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 halogen atoms; a group represented by the formula: -Y-(CR⁶¹R⁶²)_m-

$(CR^{63}R^{64})_n-R^{77}$ (wherein Y represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; R^{61} , R^{62} , R^{63} , and R^{64} are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or a trifluoromethyl group; R^{77} represents a halogen atom; a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group; a C_{2-10} alkenyl group; a phenyl group; a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of nitro groups, cyano groups, C_{1-6} alkyl groups, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, C_{1-6} alkylthio groups, phenyl groups, phenoxy groups, phenethyl groups, C_{2-6} alkoxy carbonyl groups, and halogen atoms; a cyano group; a carboxyl group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl group; a C_{3-8} cycloalkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkylthio group; a C_{2-6} alkanoyloxy group; a C_{2-6} alkanoyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group; a phenoxy group; a phenylthio group; an N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)toluidino group; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group; a piperidino group; a morpholino group; a pyridyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a piperidino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a morpholino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a morpholinyl group; a morpholinyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a homomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholino group; a thiomorpholino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a piperazinyl group; a piperazin-1-yl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group at the 4-position; a homopiperidinyl group; a homopiperidinyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a pyridylthio group; a quinolyl group; a furyl group; an oxetanyl group; an oxolanyl group; a dioxolanyl group; a dioxolanyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; an oxanyl group; a dioxanyl group; a dioxanyl group

substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzodioxanyl group; a pyrrolidon-1-yl group; a pyrrolidinyl group; an N-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)pyrrolidinyl group; a piperidinyl group; an N-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)piperidinyl group; a pyrrolyl group; a thienyl group; a thiazolyl group; a thiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a 2,6-purindion-7-yl group substituted with at least one C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a furfuryl group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino group; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; or a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; m is an integer of 1 to 6; and n is an integer of 0 to 6); or a group represented by the formula: -SO₂NR⁸R⁹ (wherein R⁸ and R⁹ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₁₀ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkanoyl group, an isoxazolyl group, an isoxazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiadiazolyl group, a thiadiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiazolyl group, a thiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyridyl group, a pyridyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, a pyridazinyl group, a pyridazinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, an indazolyl group, or a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, or alternatively, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, form a 3,5- dioxopiperazin-1-yl group, a pyrrolidinyl group, a piperidino group, or a morpholino group), or alternatively,

the two groups adjacent to each other of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵, taken together with the benzene ring to which they are bonded, form a phthalimide ring; a phthalimide ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; an indole ring; an indane ring; an indazole ring; a benzotriazole ring; an S,S-dioxobenzothiophene ring; a 2,3-dihydroimidazo(2,1-b)benzothiazole ring; a dibenzofuran ring;

a dibenzofuran ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a fluorene ring; a fluorene ring substituted with a halogen atom; a pyrene ring; a carbostyryl ring; a carbostyryl ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a naphthalene ring; a naphthalene ring substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano groups, halogen atoms, nitro groups, and C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene ring; a quinoline ring; a quinoline ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; an isoquinoline ring; a 2-oxo— α -chromene ring; a 2-oxo— α -chromene ring substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a cinnolin ring; a cinnolin ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a phthalazindione ring; a benzothiazol ring; a benzothiazol ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzodioxorane ring; and a benzobutyrolactone ring, and the remaining groups of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ alkoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group, a nitro group, or a halogen atom, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

6. (previously presented): The hydroxyformamidine compound or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, according to Claim 5, wherein at least one of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ represents a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group; a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group substituted with 1 to 6 halogen atoms; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a 3-phenyl-2-propenyloxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₁₀ alkanoylamino group; a C₂₋₆ alkanoylamino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzoylamino group; a carbamoyl group; a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl or phenyl groups; an N-(N',N'-di(C₁₋₆

alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl group; a cyano group; a cyano C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group; a phenylsulfonyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylthio C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a phenylsulfonyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group wherein the benzene ring is substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms; a phenyl group; a benzyl group; a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano groups, halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a biphenyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms; a benzyl group substituted with a bicyclo(2.2.1)-hept-5-en-2,3-dicarboxyimidyl group; a styryl group; a styryl group substituted with 1 to 5 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups and di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino alkyl groups; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group; a piperidino group; a morpholino group; a pyridyl group; a pyrimidinyl group; a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl groups and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a phthalimidoyl group; a phthalimidoyl group substituted with 1 to 3 halogen atoms; an N-carbazolyl group; a dioxopiperidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a phenylsulfonylamino group; a phenylsulfonylamino group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a C₁₋₆ alkylaminosulfonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a thiadiazolyl group; an oxadiazolyl group; an oxadiazolyl group substituted with a substituted phenyl group wherein the substituents in the substituted phenyl group are 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a pyrrolidinyl group; a pyrazolyl group; a pyrazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and trifluoromethyl groups; a furyl group; a furyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and

C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl groups; a thienopyrimidinylthio group; a thienopyrimidinylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a thienopyridylthio group; a thienopyridylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a benzothiazolylthio group; a benzothiazolylthio group substituted with 1 to 3 halogen atoms; or a group represented by the formula: -SO₂NR⁸R⁹ (wherein R⁸ and R⁹ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₁₀ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkanoyl group, an isoxazolyl group, an isoxazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiadiazolyl group, a thiadiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiazolyl group, a thiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyridyl group, a pyridyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, a pyridazinyl group, a pyridazinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, an indazolyl group, or a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, or alternatively, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, form a 3,5-dioxopiperadino group, a pyrrolidinyl group, a piperidino group, or a morpholino group), or alternatively,

the two groups adjacent to each other of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵, taken together with the benzene ring to which they are bonded, form a phthalimide ring; a phthalimide ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; an indole ring; an indane ring; an indazole ring; a benzotriazole ring; an S,S-dioxobenzothiophene ring; a 2,3-dihydroimidazo(2,1-b)benzothiazole ring; a dibenzofuran ring; a dibenzofuran ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a fluorene ring; a fluorene ring substituted with a halogen atom; a pyrene ring; a carbostyryl ring; a carbostyryl ring substituted

with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a naphthalene ring; a naphthalene ring substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano groups, halogen atoms, nitro groups, and C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene ring; a quinoline ring; a quinoline ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; an isoquinoline ring; a 2-oxo— α -chromene ring; a 2-oxo— α -chromene ring substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a cinnolin ring; a cinnolin ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a phthalazindione ring; a benzothiazol ring; a benzothiazol ring substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzodioxorane ring; and a benzobutyrolactone ring, and the remaining groups of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ alkoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group, a nitro group, or a halogen atom.

7. (previously presented): The hydroxyformamidine compound or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, according to Claim 6, wherein at least one of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ represents a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group; a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group; a C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl group substituted with 1 to 6 halogen atoms; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a 3-phenyl-2-propenyloxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; a C₂₋₁₀ alkanoylamino group; a C₂₋₆ alkanoylamino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a carbamoyl group; a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl or phenyl groups; an N-(N',N'-di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkyl)carbamoyl group; a cyano group; a cyano C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group; a phenylsulfonyl group; a C₁₋₆ alkylthio C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a phenyl group; a benzyl group; a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of cyano groups,

halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a biphenyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group; an α -cyanobenzyl group substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms; a pyrrolidino group; a piperidino group; a morpholino group; a pyridyl group; a pyrimidinyl group; a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl groups and C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups; a pyrrolidinyl group; a pyrazolyl group; a pyrazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and trifluoromethyl groups; a furyl group; a furyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen atoms, C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, and C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl groups; or a group represented by the formula: -SO₂NR⁸R⁹ (wherein R⁸ and R⁹ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₁₀ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkanoyl group, an isoxazolyl group, an isoxazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiadiazolyl group, a thiadiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a thiazolyl group, a thiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyridyl group, a pyridyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, a pyrimidinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, a pyridazinyl group, a pyridazinyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkoxy groups, an indazolyl group, or a carbamoyl group mono- or di-substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl groups, or alternatively, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded, form a 3,5-dioxopiperazin-1-yl group, a pyrrolidinyl group, a piperidino group, or a morpholino group) and the remaining groups of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ alkoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group, a nitro group, or a halogen atom.

8. (previously presented): The hydroxyformamidine compound or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, according to Claim 5, wherein at least one of R^{11} to R^{55} represents a group represented by the formula: $-Y-(CR^{61}R^{62})_m-(CR^{63}R^{64})_n-R^{77}$ (wherein Y represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; R^{61} , R^{62} , R^{63} , and R^{64} are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or a trifluoromethyl group; R^{77} represents a halogen atom; a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group; a C_{2-10} alkenyl group; a phenyl group; a phenyl group substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of nitro groups, cyano groups, C_{1-6} alkyl groups, C_{1-6} alkoxy groups, C_{1-6} alkylthio groups, phenyl groups, phenoxy groups, phenethyl groups, C_{2-6} alkoxy carbonyl groups, and halogen atoms; a cyano group; a carboxyl group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl group; a C_{3-8} cycloalkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a C_{1-6} alkylthio group; a C_{2-6} alkanoyloxy group; a C_{2-6} alkanoyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl group; a phenoxy group; a phenylthio group; an N-(C_{1-6} alkyl)toluidino group; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group; a piperidino group; a morpholino group; a pyridyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a piperidino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkoxy group; a pyrrolidin-1-yl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a morpholino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a morpholinyl group; a morpholinyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a homomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholino group; a thiomorpholino group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group; a piperazinyl piperidinyl group; a piperazin-1-yl group substituted with a C_{1-6} alkyl group at the 4-position; a homopiperidinyl group; a homopiperidinyl group substituted

with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a pyridylthio group; a quinolyl group; a furyl group; an oxetanyl group; an oxolanyl group; an dioxolanyl group; a dioxolanyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; an oxanyl group; a dioxanyl group; a dioxanyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a benzodioxanyl group; a pyrrolidon-1-yl group; a pyrrolidinyl group; an N-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)pyrrolidinyl group; a piperidinyl group; an N-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)piperidinyl group; a pyrrolyl group; a thienyl group; a thiazolyl group; a thiazolyl group substituted with 1 to 3 C₁₋₆ alkyl groups; a 2,6-purindion-7-yl group substituted with C₁₋₆ alkyl group(s); a furfuryl group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino group; a C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group; or a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; m is an integer of 1 to 6; and n is an integer of 0 to 6), and the remaining groups of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ alkoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group, a nitro group, or a halogen atom.

9. (previously presented): The hydroxyformamidine compound or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, according to Claim 8, wherein at least one of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ represents a group represented by the formula: -O-(CR⁶¹R⁶²)_m-(CR⁶³R⁶⁴)_n-R⁷⁷ (wherein R⁶¹, R⁶², R⁶³, and R⁶⁴ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, or a trifluoromethyl group; R⁷⁷ represents a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino group; a di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a piperidyl group; a piperidyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a piperidino group; a piperidino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a pyridyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a pyridyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; a pyridylthio group; a pyrrolidon-1-yl group; a pyrrolidinyl group; a pyrrolidinyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a pyrrolyl group; a thienyl group; a thiazolyl group; a

morpholino group; a morpholino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a morpholinyl group; a morpholinyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a homomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholino group; a thiomorpholino group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group; a thiomorpholinyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; a piperazinyl group; piperazin-1-yl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group at the 4-position; a homopiperidinyl group; or a homopiperidinyl group substituted with a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; m is an integer of 1 to 6; and n is an integer of 0 to 6), and the remaining groups of R¹¹ to R⁵⁵ are identical or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkyl group, a C₁₋₄ alkoxy group, a trifluoromethyl group, a nitro group, or a halogen atom.

10. (previously presented): The hydroxyformamidine compound or pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, according to any one of claims 7 to 9, wherein R¹¹, R²², R⁴⁴, and R⁵⁵ represent hydrogen atoms.

11. (canceled).

12. (currently amended): A therapeutic method for treatment of ~~a kidney disease, a cerebrovascular disease, or a circulatory disease~~, said method comprising administering to a patient having ~~a kidney disease, a cerebrovascular disease, or a circulatory disease~~ an effective amount of the hydroxyformamidine compound or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof according to any one of claims 5 to 9.

13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended): A therapeutic method for treatment of ~~a kidney disease, a cerebrovascular disease, or a circulatory disease~~, said method comprising administering to a

patient having ~~a kidney disease, a cerebrovascular disease, or a circulatory disease~~ an effective amount of the hydroxyformamidine compound or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof according to claim 10.

15. (original): The hydroxyformamidine compound N-(3-chloro-4-morpholin-4-yl)phenyl-N'-hydroxyimidoformamidine.

16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended): A method for treatment of ~~a kidney disease, a cerebrovascular disease or a circulatory disease~~, said method comprising administering to a subject having ~~at least one of~~ said diseases, wherein said diseases is ~~are~~ caused by the activity of 20-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid, a pharmaceutically-effective amount of N-(3-chloro-4-morpholin-4-yl)phenyl-N'-hydroxyimidoformamidine or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.